

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) A method for activating an electric parking brake of a motor vehicle, comprising:

detecting an initiation of a shut-down operation for turning off a drive motor of the motor vehicle;

activating the electric parking brake after initiation of the shut-down operation, and

~~after the activating step,~~ turning off the drive motor only after completion of activation of the electric parking brake.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the motor vehicle is arranged as a road motor vehicle.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]] A method according to claim 10, further for activating an electric parking brake of a motor vehicle,~~ comprising:

detecting an initiation of a shut-down operation for turning off a drive motor of the motor vehicle;

activating the electric parking brake after initiation of the shut-down operation;

after the activating step, turning off the drive motor;

ascertaining an operating state of an electric energy supply for activating the electric parking brake; and

determining as a function of the operating state as to whether the drive motor will be used to activate the electric parking brake.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the operating state includes a charge state of an energy store of the electric energy supply.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A method according to claim 10, further for activating an electric parking brake of a motor vehicle, comprising:
detecting an initiation of a shut-down operation for turning off a drive motor of the motor vehicle;
activating the electric parking brake after initiation of the shut-down operation;
after the activating step, turning off the drive motor;
ascertaining an angle of inclination of the motor vehicle; and
determining as a function of an amount of the angle of inclination as to whether the drive motor will be used to activate the electric parking brake.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, further comprising determining whether the vehicle is stopped;
wherein the electric parking brake is activated in the activating step only when the motor vehicle is stopped.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A method according to claim 10, further for activating an electric parking brake of a motor vehicle, comprising:
detecting an initiation of a shut-down operation for turning off a drive motor of the motor vehicle;
activating the electric parking brake after initiation of the shut-down operation;
after the activating step, turning off the drive motor; and
maintaining operation of the drive motor during an interval having a defined length and beginning with at least one of (a) the initiation of the shut-down operation and (b) a receipt of a corresponding shut-down signal.

17. (Currently Amended) A device for activating an electric parking brake of a motor vehicle, comprising:
an activation device adapted to generate an activation signal by which the electric parking brake is activatable;
an engine control device adapted to control a shut-down operation by which a drive motor of the motor vehicle is turned off; and
a detection device adapted to detect an initiation of the shut-down operation to turn off the drive motor, the detection device connected to the activation device and the engine control device;

wherein the activation device and the engine control device are combined and adapted to, after initiation of the shut-down operation, first activate the electric parking brake by the activation signal while operation of the drive motor is maintained, and to turn off the drive motor only ~~afterward~~ after completion of activation of the electric parking brake.

18. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 17, wherein the motor vehicle is arranged as a road motor vehicle.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A device according to claim 17, further for activating an electric parking brake of a motor vehicle, comprising:

an activation device adapted to generate an activation signal by which the electric parking brake is activatable;

an engine control device adapted to control a shut-down operation by which a drive motor of the motor vehicle is turned off;

a detection device adapted to detect an initiation of the shut-down operation to turn off the drive motor, the detection device connected to the activation device and the engine control device; and

an operating state device adapted to determine an operating state of an electric energy supply for an activation of the electric parking brake, the operating state device coupled to the engine control device to maintain [[the]] operation of the drive motor as a function of the operating state until activation of the electric parking brake;

wherein the activation device and the engine control device are combined and adapted to, after initiation of the shut-down operation, first activate the electric parking brake by the activation signal while the operation of the drive motor is maintained, and to turn off the drive motor only afterward.

20. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A device according to claim 17, further for activating an electric parking brake of a motor vehicle, comprising:

an activation device adapted to generate an activation signal by which the electric parking brake is activatable;

an engine control device adapted to control a shut-down operation by which a drive motor of the motor vehicle is turned off;

a detection device adapted to detect an initiation of the shut-down operation to turn off the drive motor, the detection device connected to the activation device and the engine control device; and

a second detection device adapted to detect an angle of inclination of the motor vehicle, the second detection device coupled to the engine control device to maintain [[the]] operation of the drive motor as a function of a magnitude of the angle of inclination until activation of the electric parking brake;

wherein the activation device and the engine control device are combined and adapted to, after initiation of the shut-down operation, first activate the electric parking brake by the activation signal while the operation of the drive motor is maintained, and to turn off the drive motor only afterward.

21. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 17, further comprising a movement device adapted to determine whether the motor vehicle is stopped, the movement device coupled to the engine control device to maintain the operation of the drive motor as a function of a standstill of the motor vehicle until activation of the electric parking brake.